

II. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) A network element comprising:

data transfer means configured to download a driver from a network server via a data transmission network;

an interface unit configured to transmit and receive data to and from an external unit, to transmit a signal to the external unit, said signal being indicative of attachment of the external unit to the network element, to automatically initiate the downloading of the driver in response to information obtained in a response signal from the external unit, said information indicating the presence of a new application in the external unit, and to obtain from the external unit an address from which the driver is to be downloaded;

control means configured to check that the origin of the downloaded driver has been verified prior to executing one or more functions in the restricted library;

wherein said control means comprises:

said driver configured to modify one or more commands received into a format required by the external unit, to invoke one or more functions in a restricted library in the network element to control the operation of the external unit, invoke one or more functions in a standard library in the network element; and

wherein an origin of said downloaded driver is verified using at least an electronic signature.

2. (Original) A network element according to claim 1, wherein said network element is a wireless terminal.

3-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Original) A network element according to claim 1, wherein said driver is stored in the network element as a byte compiled code.

6. (Original) A network element according to claim 5, wherein said electronic signature comprises a character string, processed by the secret key of the publisher of said code, whereupon the verification of the driver's origin takes place by decrypting the encryption of the character string by the code of publisher's public key.

7. (Original) A network element according to claim 6, wherein said character string comprises a hash computed from said code by a specified hash function.

8. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 1, wherein a driver relating to a specific use is arranged to receive a command in a specified format.

9. (Currently Amended) A data transmission network, comprising a network element, which network element comprises:

a data transfer device configured to download a driver from a network server via a data transmission network;

an interface unit configured to transmit a signal to an external unit, said signal being indicative of attachment of the external unit to the network element, to automatically initiate the downloading of the driver in response to information obtained in a response signal from the external unit, said information indicating the presence of a new application in the external unit, to obtain from the external unit an address for the downloading of the driver, transmit and receive data to and from the external unit, which data comprises one or more commands, the external unit processing data provided in a required format;

a control unit configured to check that the origin of the downloaded driver has been verified prior to executing one or more functions in the restricted library;

wherein said control unit comprises:

said driver configured to modify at least one received command into the format required by the external unit, to invoke one or more functions in a restricted library in said network element to control the operation of said external unit, invoke one or more functions in a standard library in said network element;

and

wherein the origin of said downloaded driver is verified using at least an electronic signature.

10. (Original) A data transmission network according to claim 9, wherein said network element is a wireless terminal.

11. (Original) A data transmission network according to claim 9, wherein said network element is a network server.

12. (Currently Amended) A method for processing data, the method comprising:

sending to an external unit a signal indicative of attachment of the external unit to a network element;

receiving a response signal from said external unit to the network element;

receiving an address from which a driver is to be downloaded from an external unit;

downloading said driver from a data transmission network to said network element
in response to information obtained in a response signal from the external unit,
said information indicating the presence of a new application in the external unit;

verifying an origin of the driver using at least an electronic signature;

executing an application in the network element;

the application issuing a command to the driver;

the driver modifying the command into a format required by an external unit;

the driver calling a function in a restricted library to control the operation of the external unit; and

checking that the origin of the driver has been verified prior to executing the function.

13-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously Presented) A network element according to claim 1, wherein said external unit is a smart card.

18. (Previously Presented) A data transmission network according to claim 9, wherein said external unit is a smart card.